

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**November 27, 2007 MINUTES**

On Tuesday, November 27, 2007, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:15 a.m. with Commissioners Marilyn Ross, David Schulz, and Jim Hart present.

Marilyn Ross moved to approve the November 6, 2007, minutes as read. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Charity Fechter, Dave DeGrandpre, Rob Miller, Frank Colwell, Megan Miller, Lee Poole, Jessi Fanelli, Kevin Germain, Kathleen Mumme, Peggy Kaatz, Molly Peterson, Lisa Frye, Donna Gilman, Patty Davis, Chris Mumme, Chris Christensen, Shelly Burke, Johanna Lester, Roger Staley, Karen Brown, MaryAnn O'Malley, Vicki Tilstra, Linda Robertson, Margie Edsall, Lizz Babcock, Janie Alt, Bundy Bailey, Carmin Hill, Kasey Smart, Karen Miller, Dave Schenk, Brandy Hilton, Amy Donovan, Jennifer Bailey, Barbie Durham, Marilee Tucker, Steve DiGiovanna, Eric Bechtold, David Mills, Lee Von Hagen, Dan McAllister, Dave Kautsky, Ray Rowberry, and those on the attached list.

**Claims:** The Board approved claims.

**LUCA Registration:** Jim Hart moved to authorize Karen Brown, GIS/IT, to participate in the Local Update of Census Addresses Program in conjunction with the United States Department of Commerce Census Bureau for the 2010 Decennial Census. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Board Resignations:** Marilyn Ross moved to accept the resignation of Ken Walsh from the Twin Bridges Mosquito Board and to advertise the vacancy. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Cote Meadows Minor Final Plat:** Charity Fechter, Planning Director, presented the Board with the final plat of Cote Meadows Minor Subdivision. Rob Miller, Landowner, Frank Colwell, Landowner Representative, Dave DeGrandpre, Contract Planner, and Megan Miller were also present for this portion of the meeting. This subdivision is located approximately three to three and a half miles southwest of Alder and will create four single family residential/agricultural lots ranging in size from 2.72 acres to 18.7 acres. Per recommendation of the Planning Director, Marilyn Ross moved to approve the final plat of Cote Meadows Minor Subdivision in Section 20, Township 6 South, Range 4 West, with the Subdivision Improvements Agreement and Letter of Credit #2007-7, drawn under First Madison Valley Bank of Ennis in the amount of \$123, 937.50. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Moonlight Basin Ranch ODP:** Dave DeGrandpre, Contracted Planner for Madison County, presented the Board with the Amended Overall Development Plan for Moonlight Basin Ranch. Charity Fechter, Planning Director, Lee Poole, Kevin Germain, and Jessi Fanelli, Moonlight Basin Ranch, were also present for this portion of the meeting. Dave DeGrandpre gave the Board a general overview of the amended ODP with the main difference being 1,651 proposed residential units instead of 1,290, being an increase of 390 residential units. Dave stated that the Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of the ODP with several conditions. Much discussion followed regarding the conditions. Based on the Planning Board's recommendation and revision of conditions as discussed today, Jim Hart moved to approve the 2007 Amended Overall Development Plan for Moonlight Basin Ranch. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Staff Meeting:** Kathleen Mumme, Peggy Kaatz, Molly Peterson, Charity Fechter, Lisa Frye, Donna Gilman, Patty Davis, Chris Mumme, Chris Christensen, Shelly Burke, Johanna Lester, Roger Staley, Karen Brown, MaryAnn O'Malley, Vicki Tilstra, Linda Robertson, Margie Edsall, Lizz Babcock, Janie Alt, Bundy Bailey, Carmin Hill, Kasey Smart, Karen Miller, Dave Schenk, Brandy Hilton, Amy Donovan, Jennifer Bailey, Barbie Durham, and Marilee Tucker were present for the staff meeting.

- **Planning Staff:** David Schulz discussed salaries of the two new positions in the Planning Office, stating that the Board would take a serious look at salaries for all offices but that it would be considered at budget time and that now is not the time to change the budget. Kathleen Mumme stated that she does not begrudge anyone's salary but that longevity needs to be looked at. Shelly Burke stated that a majority of the staff is upset that one office is making more than other offices. Kasey Smart stated that the new Planner II makes more than elected officials but does not have near the responsibility. Marilee Tucker stated that one of the greatest assets in this type of environment is "institutional memory" and that employees should be rewarded for that. Charity Fechter stated that it's hard to hire Planners anywhere even with a good salary. Bundy Bailey stated that because Montana statute guides elected officials' salaries that this is something that might need to be dealt with through legislation. David Schulz stated

that the County would get comparables from other like counties; get input from staff; put it in front of the Compensation Board; and proactively deal with salaries in the next budget.

- **Animals on Premises:** David Schulz stated that it was brought to the attention of the Board that the County Personnel Policy manual addressed pets in county buildings or job sites and asked that all animals be kept out of county buildings.
- **Christmas Party:** Laurie Buyan, Commissioners' Assistant, distributed proposed menus for the annual Christmas party. After allowing time for reviewing menus, a vote was taken by a show of hands. Mill Creek Inn in Sheridan received the most votes and will host this year's Christmas party on December 28, 2007. Barbie Durham discussed the possibility of giving employees the option of donating a portion of their paycheck to a charity of their choice rather than having a gift exchange at the Christmas party.
- **Law and Justice Center Committee:** David Schulz stated that Jim Hart had written an article for the Madisonian and requested that anyone interested in being on a committee for the Law and Justice Center should contact the Commissioners' office. The Board has received some interest in serving on this committee. Commissioner Schulz stated that employee involvement would be welcomed and that any employees interested in serving on the committee should contact Laurie in the Commissioners' office.
- **County Vehicle Use as Taxable Benefit:** Vicki Tilstra, Chief Financial Officer, explained why employees using a County vehicle for travel to and from home will need to claim this as a benefit and the different options available.

**Microwave Radio Connections:** Steve DiGiovanna, Communication Coordinator, met with the Board to discuss options for replacing or upgrading radio equipment at the repeater station above Virginia City. Steve stated that the current antiquated equipment could be updated at a cost of approximately \$8000 to \$9000 or new microwave connections that would take the place of radios could be purchased at a cost of approximately \$12,000. Steve requested authorization to spend \$12,000 on a new system and set up the old system as a back up. Jim Hart moved to encourage Steve DiGiovanna to work toward the purchase of a point to point microwave system for the repeater station above Virginia City in the amount of \$12,000. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Twin Bridges Interlocal Agreement:** Per request from Sheriff Dave Schenk, Marilyn Ross moved to approve the Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreement between Madison County and the Town of Twin Bridges for mutual support of law enforcement to be carried out through one integrated force for the Town and County, for the sum equal to seventeen mills upon the taxable valuation of the property assessed within the Town for the period from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Cielo Property Lease:** The Board discussed renewal of the lease for the Pankey House from Cielo Properties. The Board will contact Lucie Sonderer for further discussion.

**Christmas Gift Certificates:** Jim Hart moved to give all employees Christmas gift certificates in the amount of \$10.00 redeemable at various merchants throughout the County. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Grader Bid Openings:** The Board received three bids for a new grader for the Alder Road District. Eric Bechtold and Lee Von Hagen, RDO Equipment, David Mills, TriState Equipment, Dave Kautsky and Dan McAllister, Tractor and Equipment, and Ray Rowberry, District 1 Road Foreman, were present for this portion of the meeting. David Schulz opened bids and read the total amounts including trade-in and warranty information. The Board then gave each representative the opportunity to discuss their grader with the Board without the competitors present. The Board will further review the bids before making a determination on the purchase of a grader.

**Lower Family Ranch Preliminary Plat:** Those on the attached list were present for this portion of the meeting. Anne Cossitt, Contract Planner for Madison County, presented a brief overview of the Lower Family Ranch project. The project is approximately five to six miles north of McAllister and would create seventeen lots and one additional tract not designated for development. The proposal also includes a request for a variance for the road width. Andy Suenram, Attorney for Wayne Lower, stated that his client would like the Board to consider a 60 day continuation before making a decision on this proposal, in accord with 76-3-604 MCA. Jim Hart moved to honor the statute request and allow the 60 day stay. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**CDBG Planning Grant:** Marilyn Ross moved to approve the Community Development Block Grant, Contract #MT-CDBG-07PG-16, between Madison County and the Montana Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing funds in the amount of \$10,000 for preparation of Preliminary Architectural Reports by a licensed professional architect for two nursing homes in Madison County; Madison Valley Manor in Ennis, Montana, and Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center in Sheridan, Montana. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**NACo Prescription Drug Program:** Marilyn Ross moved to complete paperwork necessary to participate in the NACo Prescription Drug Program. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Architect Selection for Nursing Homes Project PAR:** The Board received four Requests for Proposals for Architectural Services for the CDBG-ED Nursing Facilities PAR Proposal. After reviewing all proposals and scoring according to advertised guidelines, Jim Hart moved to accept the Preliminary Nursing Home Facilities Architectural Report Proposal from Schlenker & McKittrick Architects P.C. and to select them to provide architectural services to complete a preliminary architectural report on the two nursing home facilities located Madison County, Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center located in Sheridan, Montana, and Madison Valley Manor, located in Ennis, Montana. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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David Schulz, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: December 4, 2007

Minutes prepared by:

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Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

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Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County